

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 OMB-01 IO-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

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R 181115 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7425

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, CY

SUBJECT: CYPRUS: CLERIDES ATTACKS DENKTASH POSITION ON LOCAL
AUTONOMY; LIMASSOL INCIDENT

REF: NICOSIA 1155

SUMMARY: CLERIDES AND DEKLERIS EXPRESS RESERVATIONS
OVER DENKTASH LOCAL AUTONOMY POSITION. MAY 18 SESSION
INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS CANCELLED; NEXT MEETING MAY 29. ALDIKACTI
UNDERScores DIFFERENCES WITH DENKTASH BY REITERATING OPTIMISM.
LIMASSOL INCIDENT RAISES INTERCOMMUNAL TEMPERATURE.
END SUMMARY

1. SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AT CONCLUSION CURRENT ROUND
INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS MAY 17, HOUSE PRESIDENT CLERIDES
DECLARED DENKTASH POSITION ON LOCAL AUTONOMY DAMAGES
CHANCES FOR NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. HE SAID IF
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DENKTASH INSISTS THERE MUST BE NO GOVERNMENTAL CONTROL OVER LOCAL AUTHORITIES, THEN HE (CLERIDES) SAW LITTLE PROSPECT THAT TALKS WOULD SUCCEED. MEETING SCHEDULED FOR TODAY, MAY 18 , CANCELLED AND NEXT SESSION TENTATIVELY PLANNED MAY 29.

2. CLERIDES REVEALED TURKISH SIDE HAS COMPLETE ITS PRESENTATION OF VIEWS ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT ISSUE -- OSTENSIBLE REASON FOR CANCELLATION TODAY' S SESSION. DURING NEXT ROUND, GREEK SIDE WILL PRESENT ITS APPRAISAL TURK CYPRIOT PROPOSALS AND " OFFER SUGGESTIONS ON MATTER". AFTER GREEK VIEWS PRESENTED, CLERIDES STATED THERE WILL BE ATTEMPT TO BRIDGE DIFFERENCES.

3. GREEK EXPERT DEKLERIS EXPRESSED HOPE DENKTASH STATEMENT REFTEL DID NOT CONSTITUTE LAST WORK, POINTING OUT THAT ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL OVER LOCAL GOVERNMENT WAS AMONG SUBJECTS SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION. HE DECLARED ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL NEITHER UNKNOWN NOR UNCOMMON IN CONSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE OF STATE.

4. TURKISH EXPERT ALDIKACTI UNDERSCORED DIFFERENCES WITH DENKTASH BY REITERATING HIS PERSONAL OPTIMISM OVER OUTCOME NEGOTIATIONS. GREEK CYPRIOT PRESS NOTED DICHOTOMY BUT UNSURE HOW PLAY IT. RIGHT WING ELEFThERIA IMPLIED APPARENT DIFFERENCES MAY BE TURKISH TRICK TO FOOL GREEK SIDE, WHILE PHILELEFThEROS CONCLUDED SPLIT WILL BE SUBJECT TURKISH CHARGE INHAN' S CONSULTATIONS IN ANKARA.

5. AT SAME TIME, INTERCOMMUNAL TENSIONS INCREASED AS RESULT MAY 17 LIMASSOL INCIDENT. CYPOL SENT TWO JEEPS, WITH APPROXIMATEY EIGHT OFFICERS, TO STOP TURK CYPRIOT POLICE CONTROL OF TRAVVEK ON MAIN STREET IN TURKISH AREA. LARGE CROWS TURK CYPRIOTS GATHERED (INCLUDING SOME ARMED MEMBERS TMT) AND SPORADIC ROCK THROWING ENSUED. LOCAL TURK CYPRIOT LEADERS HAD DIFFICULTY CONTROLLING CROWD, AND IT TOOK UNFICYP SEVERAL HOURS TO DEFUSE SITUATION. WHILE BOTH POLICE FORCES WITHDREW FROM AREA LAST NIGHT, NO AGREEMENT REACHED ON FUTURE TRAFFIC CONTROL.

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6. COMMENT: UNFICYP UNSURE HOW TURK CYPRIOT POLICE HAVE BEEN CONTROLLING TRAFFIC BUT BELIEVE TCPA CLAIM OF TWO WEEKS PROBABLY ABOUT RIGHT. ALSO UNCLEAR WHY CYPOL REACTED NOW. GREEK CYPRIOTS HAVE BEEN CONCERNED OVER SITUATION IN LIMASSOL SINCE JANUARY, WHEN TURK CYPRIOT POLICE, FOR FIRST TIME, BEGAN WEARING UNIFORMS

AND OPENLY ASSUMING POLICE FUNCTIONS WITHIN ENCLAVE.
ABOVE INCIDENT INDICATIVE OF DETERIORATING SITUATION
IN LIMASSOL, ONCE DEBATE OVER UNFICYP' S FUTURE IS FACT THAT UN
WAS ON SCENE, INTERPOSING SMALL NUMBER OF SOLDIERS BETWEEN
TWO SIDES, WITHIN FIFTEEN MINUTES DESPITE ABSENCE FIXED OP' S
IN AREA. BRITISH COMMANDER NEGOTIATED TEMPORARY SOLUTION.
END COMMENT
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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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